

The Times-Dispatch

DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY.

Business Office: 218 E. Main Street.
 Richmond, Va.
 Telephone: 100.
 Second-class matter, under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

BY MAIL. One Six Three One
 POSTAGE PAID. Year. \$3.00. Mo. \$1.00. Qu. \$1.50.
 Daily, without Sunday, 40c. 20c. 10c.
 Sunday edition only, 10c. 5c. 2c.
 Weekly (Wednesday), 1.00 .50 .25

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service
 in Richmond (and suburbs), Manchester and
 Petersburg—

One Week. One Year.
 Daily, with Sunday, 14 cents. \$6.70.
 Daily, without Sunday, 10 cents. 4.50.
 Sunday only, 5 cents. 2.25.
 (Yearly subscription payable in advance.)

Entered, January 27, 1903, at Richmond, Va.,
 as second-class matter, under act of Congress
 of March 3, 1879.

HOW TO CALL TIMES-DISPATCH.
 Persons wishing to communicate with the
 Times-Dispatch by telephone will ask central
 office for "441," and on being answered from the
 office switchboard, will indicate the department
 or person with whom they wish to speak.
 When calling between 6 A. M. and 1 P. M., call
 to central office direct for 441, composing
 room: 4012, business office: 4014, for mailing
 and press room.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 1907.

What are the pleasures and pains
 of life? As the lamp shines, so life
 glitters for an hour; but the soul
 is the star that burns forever, in
 the heart of illimitable space.—Bulwer.

Obituary.

The announcement that The Times-Dispatch would hold in Richmond a Southern Democratic Conference to consider the question of writing a platform and nominating a Southern man for the presidency, has caused sudden fear and panic in the writing-room of the Lynchburg News. Our contemporary can see in the Movement nothing but heresy, sedition, privy conspiracy and rebellion, and, after exposing and condemning the plot, pronounced the following death sentence:

"Off with its head, we say it now—and we say it to the backbone of Southern thought and discussion."

In a subsequent article, however, our contemporary takes a different tack, and begs The Times-Dispatch to "abandon the matter altogether."

This is distressing and disappointing. It is not often that we have engineered a great political Movement, and we had hoped for better treatment of our pet scheme. We had engaged the new auditor, a brass band, and a goodly number of fakirs to sell souvenirs and do other political stunts, and we had made out a list of delegates, which included, of course, the distinguished editor of the News. In our mind's eye we had seen the patriots gather together in the old-time Confederate Capital. We had seen the flags waving; we had heard the welkin ring; and in the imagination of our heart the convention had so far materialized as to make us feel that all was over but the shouting. But the sweet dream is broken. The Raleigh News and Observer, the Danville Register and other contemporaries share the misgivings of the Lynchburg News, and rather than cause distress and anxiety in the bosoms of these beloved friends, we have decided to sacrifice our own cherished desires, and, in the lyric lingo of Brother Watterson, to call the dam thing off.

It is but fair to The Times-Dispatch, however, to say that we did not originate and lead this Movement by design. Some men have greatness thrust upon them. This Movement has led The Times-Dispatch, in spite of itself, and led it into a maze of distressing entanglements. The original suggestion was made in the innocence of a political tyro. We should never have taken it seriously, had not our neighbor, the News Leader, approved and pronounced it to be the most practical suggestion that had been made in connection with the proposal to nominate a Southern man. We should have known better, however, than to pin our faith to the News Leader's estimate, for that contemporary is as ignorant of politics and political methods as The Times-Dispatch; and now that misfortune has overtaken us, we have a vague suspicion that the News Leader was in the conspiracy against us, and that it handed us a Greek gift. But vanity was greater than discretion. We have been betrayed, and we acknowledge the corn in humility and humiliation.

The Lynchburg News says that The Times-Dispatch has veered from its moorings. Too true. In fact, "veered" is a very mild term for our tergiversation. In the language of the apostle, we have been tossed about by every wind of doctrine. The Florida Times-Union began by paying a compliment to Senator Daniel, and this was echoed in The Times-Dispatch. The Florida paper then nominated Senator Daniel, and The Times-Dispatch said that he would make an ideal President. We then called the conference, but the News Leader said that it would prejudice the Movement to have a candidate in advance, and The Times-Dispatch at once retired Senator Daniel. We had expected a word of advice from the Charlotte Observer, but that astute dodger turned the whole subject over to its afternoon edition, the Chronicle, and the Chronicle said that while the idea was good, the conference should be held not in Richmond, but farther South. The Times-Dispatch was swift to concur in that view also, and suggested Key West or Seaboard. The News Leader then declared that it would never do to allow sectional spirit to take possession of the conference, and we heartily agreed that it should be infused with the broadest spirit of catholicity. Finally came the Houston Post with a proposal that the conference include representative Democrats from every State in the Union, and "let the position of the South be discussed and placed before the country in a national sense." We were about to adopt that view, and we had visions of a great National Democratic Conference in Richmond, one year in advance of the nominating convention. The most en-

couraging comment was from the Evening World, of Roanoke, which gave the entire movement a "most hearty second," and declared that "it was time for the South to assert itself." This seemed to be entirely sincere, and even now we can find no sign of merriment in the very forceful argument from that esteemed contemporary.

But the Lynchburg News has disillusioned us and has shown that the Movement is the absurd vision of a political tenderfoot, and that the newspapers which have apparently approved it were, in fact, fellow-conspirators in a merry plan to have a little Christmas fun at the expense of a tyro. This seems to The Times-Dispatch rather bad treatment from contemporaries with which it has long lived in brotherly love, if not altogether in political affiliation, and we confess that our feelings are hurt. But we have a forgiving spirit, and now, with malice toward none and charity for all, we consign the Movement to the tomb in which other fond hopes once cherished lie buried, just adding in conclusion, that if ever the Democrats of the South wish to start another great presidential Movement, they must look into some newspaper office other than The Times-Dispatch for an engineer. We retire to the ranks.

The Destruction of War.

It was given out the other day that Japan was threatened with financial panic, because of the burden of debt which the war with Russia had put upon her.

More recently Mr. Stuyvesant Fish has said that money is dear the world over, because of high prices and activity in trade, but that other causes for dear money are found in the fact that Great Britain has not fully made up its losses in the Boer War; that Japan and Russia, particularly the latter, have scarcely begun to recover from the effects of their war, and that, within the past year, there have been tremendous losses of capital due to the calamities in San Francisco and Valparaiso. There are many who believe that war brings prosperity. They are misled by the fact that during the actual progress of the war there is a brisk demand for supplies, while the enlistments reduce the number of laborers in the fields of commerce and industry, and create opportunities for those who are left behind. But that is not the whole of it. War means destruction, and soon or late the loss must be paid for. It would require labor to pull down a great building, and the work of destruction would give temporary employment to workmen. But when the building is down, so much property has been destroyed, and there is a net loss to the aggregate wealth of the community. The prosperity which war brings is but temporary, and the loss of wealth which war destroys must be reckoned with by and by.

Our war with Spain did not embarrass the United States, for the loss was comparatively small, and we were rich enough to stand it without feeling it. But the case is different with Great Britain, Russia and Japan. These nations engaged in most expensive wars and burdened themselves with an enormous load of debt, which they are still carrying, and which they are still feeling. And they will continue to carry and feel it for many years to come. Moreover, the whole world will feel it, for these debts represent, in large part, so much capital locked up.

It is significant that Mr. Fish has mentioned, in the same connection, the destructive earthquakes in San Francisco and Valparaiso. War and earthquakes are very properly associated, for both are destructive of property, and the losses from each affect the world. San Francisco is being rebuilt, and much of the money to pay the cost is supplied by the insurance companies. But millions of wealth were destroyed, and the loss must be paid for.

What is distance, in this age of steam and electricity? The world is like one great family, and that which adversely affects one part affects the whole. No man liveth to himself.

No Question of Sentiment.

Several months ago, when it was proposed to establish in Richmond an electrical plant for the purpose of supplying lights for municipal and commercial purposes, The Times-Dispatch took the position, not only that such an enterprise was of doubtful expediency, but that it would be unfair to Mr. Gould, who had made large investments here, for the city to go into a commercial enterprise in competition, as the city would, by the very nature of things, have an unfair advantage. Moreover, we contended that it would be poor policy thus to antagonize and discourage a rich man who had already invested large sums of money in this community, and who was then engaged in developing other desirable enterprises.

But in considering the question of establishing a municipal electrical plant to supply the city with street lights and to furnish additional power for the Pump-House, no question of consideration for Mr. Gould enters. The city is under no sort of obligation to him to refrain from erecting a purely municipal plant. There is but one question involved, and that is whether or not the proposal to erect a municipal plant is expedient for the city.

The Passenger and Power Company is brought into the discussion only by reason of the fact that it offers to supply the city with electrical power as cheaply as the city could generate it at a plant of its own. That is the only question, and no extraneous matter should be dragged in. There is no question of sentiment involved. The city's interests alone are under consideration, and the question is this: In the face of the Passenger and Power Company's offer, shall the city sell bonds and erect a plant at a time when the price of bonds is abnormally low and the price of labor and materials abnormally high?

Electrical development is only in its infancy, and there is every reason to believe that great improvements in electrical machinery will be made within the next ten years. What can the city possibly lose by waiting, if it can get from the plant already here all the current it needs as cheaply as it could manufacture it on its own account?

But there are those who say that if the water power at the Old Pump-House is not utilized, it will be sold or leased, or in some other way will be lost to the city, in which event we should be at the mercy of the Passenger and Power Company. But why should the city lose possession of this water power? Nobody can steal it from us, and it can only be taken away with our consent. But does any sane man believe that the people of this community would allow a property which gives us command of the situation to be sold or leased for an indefinite period? If such a thing should be attempted, there would be a mighty protest from the people, and The Times-Dispatch would be very much in evidence in the fight.

We have the power and we are able to keep it. The Council is called upon to decide whether or not it shall be utilized at this time in the way proposed, when the best that can be promised is that we can then make electrical power as cheaply as we can buy it.

Regulating Saloons.

Nashville proposes to segregate her saloons, confine them to the business districts, and make them close up at midnight. The American thinks that with these stringent regulations, coupled with high license, there is no sound reason for continuing the war on the saloons or their friends. The Prohibitionists will contest that point, for they are for war on the saloon so long as it exists, no matter what the regulations may be. But there are many temperance people who regard the saloon as a sort of necessary evil, and accept it in preference to the blind tiger. Their only stipulation is that the saloon be permitted under such regulations of law as shall reduce the evil of it to lowest terms.

The American, by the way, gives the saloonkeepers a bit of wholesome advice. It tells them that so long as they follow a legitimized avocation and obey the laws, city and State, the majority of their fellow-citizens will be content to let them alone. Saloonkeepers in Richmond, as well as those in Nashville, will do well to take this kindly hint to heart. One thing that has prejudiced many persons, more than otherwise they would be, against the liquor business is that so many saloonkeepers violate the law. The laws against selling on Sunday and against selling to minors are very plain; yet these laws are often violated, and recently a saloonkeeper in this community, who was a justice of the peace, was arrested on two separate occasions for selling liquor on Sunday. Some saloonkeepers seem to think that they are justifiable in violating these laws, because they are "sumptuary." But saloonkeepers are not to be the judges of whether a law is right or wrong. The law is made to be obeyed, and no matter what may be the nature of it, the man who violates it is as surely a lawbreaker as the man who commits theft. No saloonkeeper can have the respect of any decent man if he is lawless. It is also well enough to remember that the man who drinks in a saloon on Sunday is equally criminal, and there is as little excuse for him as for the saloonkeeper who sells the drink. This is not a question of whether or not it is wrong to drink whiskey on Sunday. The question is whether or not it is wrong to violate the law, or to aid and abet others in such violation.

Trouble in Jerusalem.

(Selected for The Times-Dispatch.)
 "When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him."—Matt. ii. 3.

So quietly had the Son of God arrived in our world that His presence was unknown in Jerusalem until these wise men came from the East. Either the shepherds had told their story only to a few, or they had not been heard. Many events transpire and are known, however, before they reach the royal ears.

As the morning star rises without noise, as the seed shoots up and opens in silence, so was it with Christ, the Rose of Sharon, the Bright and Morning Star. No thunder peal awoke the hills of Palestine; no fanfare of trumpets, no herald nor royal salute greeted Him. "Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all."

His mother and the few of her tribe who believed in "the Child that was born," made no proclamation of the heavenly wonder. They received it all in silent, happy faith, and pondered the things in their heart, leaving it to God to make it all known in His own time and way. Such is the confidence which loyal faith has in the great things of God.

These wise men came with a tale, a vision and a miracle. They are not of Israel, but with more faith than Israel and they are not from any part of Israel. It is gentle testimony from the land of Israel's enemies. They are recognized as wise men—men of the East, the wise and far-seeing East, the thoughtful and star-gazing East. They come because of actual and personal eyesight—"We have seen." They come to Jerusalem seeking her King! This is gentle faith, with its eye fixed on the King of Jerusalem, the Star of Jacob.

But Jerusalem has not even heard of Him. The visit and errand of these Eastern Gentiles take Israel by surprise. Nor are they roused to take any interest in the matter; they are only "troubled." He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not.

This is strange. Had the like happened elsewhere—in Babylon, or Egypt, or Rome—it would not have surprised us. But Jerusalem! And she is troubled! Troubled at the news that her King had come.

And what does it all mean? The only visible cause was the simple statement of the wise men that One had been born who was King of the Jews. This was a good report, and ought to have called

forth gladness, not sorrow. They had long expected and desired this King, and now that they are told He had come, should they not rejoice? But the announcement that their hope is realized, their great national expectation fulfilled, brings only trouble to them.

Why are they thus troubled? The tidings would spread throughout Jerusalem and Judea—to the poor, the rich, the priest, Levite, scribe, Pharisee and citizen, and to all would come the immediate question: Am I ready for His coming? They were troubled because they were not ready. The news went to their consciences. He was to be the messenger of a holy God. He was to be Himself the Holy One. He was coming to do holy things, speak holy words and require holy actions. This could not but alarm them. Hateful as was the Roman yoke, it was better than this scepter of a holy King.

The wise men were not "troubled." They were eagerly in earnest in the discovery of Israel's King. They had seen His star in the East, and they made haste to seek Him out. They saw nothing to alarm them; they were at once prepared to accept—nay, even to worship Him! Take Him for what He is; take Him for what He offers and contains; take Him entire, and you have nothing to fear.

Eliah of old was counted the troubler of Israel, and so now is Christ the troubler of the world. He will not let men alone. He is ever and anon announcing Himself, coming into the midst of them and troubling them. He does not come with fire or sword or sweeping judgment, and yet they are "troubled." He comes to a town or city, a village or a family, and they are "troubled." He comes to a soul lying asleep or dead, and it is "troubled."

What is at the bottom of all the persecution of the ages? It is Christ troubling the world. If He would let it alone, it would let Him alone. What means the outcry and alarm and misrepresentation in days of revival? It is Christ troubling the world. What means the resistance to a fully preached gospel? It is Christ troubling the world. A fettered gospel, a conditional gospel, a gospel that does not represent Christ, troubles no man.

The world's only hope is to be "troubled" by Christ. If He lets it alone, all is over. Christ's errand is to trouble men, to awaken them, to save them. The more fully He is preached, the more will men be "troubled." Has a preached Christ ever troubled you? Has the thought of His coming near you alarmed you more? The only way to quiet such alarm is to receive Him as your Saviour and King.

Yet, all this troubling is in love. He sounds His trumpet to awake the sleepers. He does not wish to terrify or to repel. His desire is to attract, and so open the way into our hearts. Give Him a free welcome and glad entrance. Let Him come in and sup with you. He is thy Lord; worship thou Him.

The Christ has come! The angels announced Him; the shepherds sought, the wise men worshiped Him! Unto us a Child is born. O glad tidings of great joy—things not meant to terrify or overwhelm, but to gladden and to comfort. Seek His face. Worship Him and live!

The Roanoke and Chowan Times, of Rich Square, N. C., has entered upon the sixteenth year of its publication under the management of Editor Andrew J. Conner. It is one of the best of the North Carolina weeklies. Its local news is exceptionally good, and its editorials have a moral ring that bespeaks the high character of the editor. The Times-Dispatch offers hearty good wishes for its continued prosperity.

The Shah of Persia has 800 wives. If the old gentleman had some 30 or 40 more years of life still in him, he may yet qualify as the world's biggest widow.

Out in Excelsior Springs, Mo., there is a Bill Cull composed exclusively of gentlemen whose Christian name is William. And each and every one of them is believed to be a really true Bill.

Seattle reports really deals amounting to \$100,000,000 in a single year. The neighboring State of Oregon can boast far larger transactions, but they have mostly been on a purely mercenary basis.

An extremely scientific society announces that the human frame shrinks one foot every 200,000 years. At that rate, we figure that in 1,200,000 years, very round numbers, man will have become a subterranean animal.

That the block operator blames the engineer, and the engineer reciprocates—all this is mighty comforting to the persons in the morgue.

Quite tentatively, we suggest "Ransom" as a ransom does" as an appropriate motto for the well-known Ransall family of Morocco.

Living or dying, His Excellency Castro may always be counted on to do the most surprising thing in reach. Whatever his other demerits, Cipriano is no bromide.

The proposed popular edition of the Congressional Record is what the late Mr. Brownlow would call "a paradox which comforts while it mocks."

A writer in the Atlantic Monthly refers to George W. Perkins as "a criminaloid," but probably few people feel that George has behaved as badly as that.

German astronomers claim to have noticed a good deal of smoke on the moon. Still, where there is so much of it, there must, we suppose, be some fire insurance.

The various good roads associations have nothing to do with the country's railways, but they ought to.

Still, the pure food law can not as yet be stretched to cover conditions in the beanyery cuisine.

Atlanta is hustling to secure a United States subtreasury, and is not putting any special accent on the sub, either.

Rhymes for To-Day

Near-Spring.

I HAVE got a lot of poems meant for winter on my brain.
 Ballads tinged with ice and frigid,
 Sonnets sung to sleet and rain,
 Verses fit for thermometric stunts at zero,
 Fahrenheit!

But good laws! I cannot use 'em, 'cause the weather won't come right.

For there's nothing very wintry in the atmosphere to-day—
 Why, instead of being icy, it is balmy
 than May!

And the birds, completely unboiled, fly away to build their nests,
 While the ladies hunt their muslins and the gents remove their vests.

I know Jan. is not the summer or the springtime or the fall,
 Yet the calendar and mercury will not agree at all!

For Jan. says it's winter just as plain as anything,
 While the latter no less loudly gives the word that it is spring.

So the poet's in dilemma, and does not know what to do;
 Shall he sing of stormy winters, shall he sing of balmy springs?

Would a ballad piped to winter read as common-sense, or not,
 When the date would authorize it, but the weatherman does not?

H. B. H.

MERELY JOKING.

Cracked Out.
 Rhc: "Do you no longer call that pretty little piece of yours 'The Nutshell'?" What made you change it?
 "I got tired of nutting people calling and asking if the 'kernel' was in."—London Scraps.

The Mistake.
 Indignant Matron (in crowded car): "Sir, when so many elderly women are standing up why do you rise and offer one of them your seat?" Seated Passenger (with dignity): "You are boarding under a mistake, madam. I am the Bearded Lady."—Chicago Tribune.

Explaining It to Father.
 The only objection I have against the young man who is going to marry me is that he has no ambition—no high or worthy object in life."
 Oh, papa, how can you say so? He wants me."—Illustrated Bile.

On the Ground Floor.
 "Asked if he could not modify his expressed views that people were coming to see hard times, a rich man replied that he could not."
 "I know the people will suffer," he said, "for I have planned to see them, and I'm running things myself."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Oh, Well—
 "Yesterday I was looking up my ancestral tree." "Did they throw any nuts?"—Punch.

Correct.
 Teacher: "Is there any connecting link between the animal and the vegetable kingdom?" Bright Pupil: "Yes, mum; there's hash."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

POINTS FROM PARAGRAPHERS.
 ALBERT T. PATRICK is not guilty enough to be executed, but just guilty enough to be imprisoned for life. Yet he either did or did not kill him. Philadelphia Inquirer.

Exit Governor Higgins, of New York. Enter Governor Higgins, of Rhode Island. It isn't so easy to wipe out the Higgins family.—Boston Herald.

Machine politicians object to the plans of Governor Hughes for reform. However, even with the aid of the Eastern Virginia. That's been recognized.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Hell is paved with good resolutions. It is expected that the sidewalk in the domain of his Santitas Majesty will be considerably extended after next Tuesday.—Bristol Herald.

It is said that Richmond has worked its population up to something over 100,000 by annexing the city of the East. "Rich" was put in the proper spirit; when you start out to expand, expand.—Washington Herald.

If a man has plenty of money to back up a lot of fool notions, people call him eccentric. If he has the notions, he is a crank.—Aitchison Globe.

A Good Law.
 The Jim Crow law is one of the very best ever enacted by a Virginia Legislature. Let it be rigidly enforced at all times. "Rich" was put in the board all cars. No self-respecting negro will object to availing with members of his own race, and the white car who wants to associate with negroes shouldn't make his home in results. The separation on cars is splendid in results. The good work expand.—Appomattox Times.

Pity the Poor Editors.
 God pity the country newspaper editor, the railroads don't any longer. They are now deprived of the "free" press, something that has been enjoyed by them since "Rich" was put in the board all cars. It will not be an unusual sight to see an editor riding in the "billion-dollar" car. The Enterprise suggests that the Philadelphia Press organize an independent railroad. We will start the ball to rolling by offering a subscription of \$20,000,000. Who will be next?—Warm Springs Enterprise.

Devey's Blunder.
 Evidence is multiplying day by day, of the correctness of the position steadfastly taken, and stoutly maintained by the Daily Progress, that the acquisition of the Philadelphia Press by the United States, in the treaty of Paris, by which the United States paid \$2,000,000 for the sale of the Press, was a mistake. A great mistake.—Charlottesville Progress.

Start Right.
 Begin the New Year with a determination to face the duties of life, whatever they may be, in a manner that will bring peace to ourselves and joy and comfort to those around us.—Lynchburg Mirror.

For a Uniform Divorce Law.
 The people and the press of Virginia have not as yet devoted much time or space to the results of the national Congress of uniform divorce laws, which met in the city of Philadelphia in November, but it is to be hoped that not all of the good work accomplished at the conference will go to waste in the Old Dominion. Believing that the constantly-increasing number of divorces in the United States needed serious consideration, the Congress resolved to assemble and propose to place a check on what was termed a fast-spreading evil.—Newport News Press.

SOUTHERN DRIFT.

Passed the Billion-Dollar Mark.
 For the year which closed yesterday the bank clearances in New Orleans for the first time passed the billion-dollar mark. It has twice been close to it, and among the nine hundred millions, but 1906 passed safely over the billion-dollar mark, showing a better business than has ever been done here before, and placing New Orleans among the twelve great banking cities of the world. The billion-dollar mark is the first banking center in the South.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Bailey's Popularity.
 Bailey has not lost the confidence of the people of Texas. There has been considerable opposition to his over here in the Clay Place at the time of the Waters-Pierce readmission, and since the Legislature has no right to ask the people to have faith in him, his admission makes an investigation a paramount duty.—Houston Chronicle.

An Old Issue Revived.
 It is a notable fact that Democratic papers in various parts of the country are showing a disposition to revive the time-honored issue of "States' rights." Every intelligent Democrat who has studied the history and the history of the party is obliged to know that for many years, and through great vicissitudes, the has been a political organization.—Birmingham News.

The Confederate Battalion that Gen. Lee Ordered to be Disbanded

After a discussion in Lee Camp about the reference in President Roosevelt's message on the discharge of the negro troops for disorderly conduct at Brownsville, Tex., to the discharge of a Confederate battalion by General Lee—none of the comrades present remembering the incident—I was requested to ascertain the facts.

I determined to apply to the President himself for the details, and addressed him the following letter:

Richmond, Va., Dec. 23, 1906.
 President Theodore Roosevelt,

White House, Washington:
 Dear Sir,—In your recent able and admirable message on the question of discharging the riotous soldiers at Brownsville, you quote General R. E. Lee as having said: "I have never seen a more orderly and brave body of men than the one who was commanding in Texas, in ante-bellum days, and the other soon after the Battle of Gettysburg. This last instance has been a matter of considerable discussion as to what battalion it was that he discharged, and at the R. E. Lee Camp, Confederate veterans, as I just said, after some talk about the matter, I was appointed as a committee of one to ascertain the facts. Never having heard of the incident before, and being unable to find any old Confederates who remember it, or any other among General Lee's descendants mentioning the matter, I take the liberty of addressing you this communication to ask the facts in the case. What was the name of the battalion discharged, and for what cause? Allow me to add that, as for twelve years I was secretary of the Southern Historical Society and editor of fourteen volumes of its papers, and as I know General Lee quite intimately, seeing something of him during the last four years of the war, and a good deal of him during the last five years of his life, when he was president of Washington College, and I was one of the chaplains of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and the Man," I consider myself well posted on Lee's life and as a member of the Institute of Confederate Veterans, I am interested in all concerning him, and being the author of two books on him, "Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Lee," and "Life and Letters of Lee, the Soldier and